



CALPEEK

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PRESIDENTIAL POLITICS: GOP GOLD HUNT IN CA.

Editor's note: The name of the game is MONEY. And you know where candidates find it. Right here in Calif. Here's a brief CALPEEK update on GOP presidential politics...

...The latest NBC/Wall Street Journal survey of top GOP presidential types still has Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole way out in front with 41%, followed by former VP Dan Quayle at 15%, former HUD Sec. Jack Kemp at 14% and U.S. Sen. Phil Gramm of Texas at 11%...

...The polling data is important because good numbers tend to impress potential contributors -- especially here in voter-rich CA, where the early Mar. 26, 1996 primary has already got the White House political juices flowing. Dole has filed his FEC papers allowing him to raise money and so has Gramm. Gramm is expected to announce his candidacy on Feb. 23 in Dallas. As for Quayle, he's on the road and will probably announce in March, as will former TN Gov. Lamar Alexander...

...In terms of CA activity, Gramm has visited here at least 3 times in the recent weeks and is set to address the annual Lincoln Club dinner in Orange Co. on Feb. 4. Gramm has lined up prominent GOP businessman Buck Johns on his team and he'll be back on Mar. 17th for another O.C. fundraiser tied to St. Patrick's Day. Gramm's western regional finance director is Laurie Christman, while his national director is Carly Eudy...

...Sen. Dole's finance director is Joann Coe, the KN senator's former COS. Together with Dole CA operative Brian Lungren, the two are now putting together the CA finance team. Because of some close ties with CA Gov. Pete Wilson, some sources suspect that a number of Wilson fundraisers will be part of the Dole team, but there's nothing specific as of deadline time...

...The big mystery remains Kemp. He's got lots of CA help from Sal Russo and Steve Merksamer, but an AP story about Kemp (plus a Bob Novak column) gave the impression that Kemp may not run. He's to appear on NBC-TV's "Meet the Press" on Jan. 29th. Sources say he might have something to say at that time. The odds are 60-40 that he won't run. Stay tuned...

SPEAKERSHIP WAR: BROWN REELECTED AMID CHARGES OF POWER GRAB BY GOP. REORGANIZATION NOW UNDERWAY.

Editor's note: By now most CALPEEK readers know that Demo Willie Brown is once again Speaker. Here's CALPEEK's update & analysis...

...Willie proved once again that he's a master when it comes to parliamentary maneuvering. Angry Republicans prefer to call what Brown did on Jan. 23rd nothing but a *power grab*. Regardless, Brown lined up his Demos to go along with a move to oust *Assemblator* Richard Mountjoy(R-Arcadia); and with Mountjoy out of the way, got all his Demos plus independent Paul Horcher of Diamond Bar to reelect him as Speaker on a 40-39 vote over GOP Assembly Leader Jim Brulte. Brulte told CALPEEK that Willie's power grab has united the GOP Assembly Caucus in a way that he never could. Maybe, maybe not...

...In Brown's acceptance speech after his reelection, he admitted his tenure as Speaker is very limited because of the bitterness of this Speakership War. And if you read between the lines, Brown is almost pleading for a GOP member to step forward (to become Speaker) and to attempt to build a coalition which can get 54 votes to pass a budget. Brown said it would be very difficult for him to deliver as he has in the past. Another sign that Brown may not be Speaker all that long is that no one was elected *Speaker Pro Tem*. Sources say

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Brown may want a co-Pro Tem arrangement or just a GOP Pro Tem. We'll see...

...One almost gets the impression that perhaps Brown never expected to be reelected Jan. 23rd. Why? Because GOP member Bernie Richter had at least two GOP caucus members who were prepared to vote for him -- and Brown undoubtedly knew this. With 39 Demos, Horcher, 2 GOPers plus Richter, that would have been 43. And other sources say that once some other GOP members realized that Richter had support from within the caucus, as many as 6-8 other Republicans would have voted with Richter. But that never happened. Here's what occurred...

...The motion to oust Mountjoy was temporarily side-tracked by a substitute motion by Demo Assembly-woman Debra Bowen. She moved to elect Richter as Speaker and adopt a set of rules dividing everything equally. After a few minutes of discussion, a member asked Richter, "Do you want to be Speaker?" Richter said *yes, but not if he were the only GOP vote*. When Richter made this statement, sources suspect he already knew his 2 GOP backers had disappeared, but others aren't so sure. Bowen was then given the floor again and said she didn't want to place Richter in an uncomfortable position and withdrew her substitute motion. Sources say had Bowen not withdrawn her motion, and a vote had been taken on Richter, he might have won. Other sources completely disagree with this scenario...

...What about the new rules dividing power? GOP members have told CALPEEK sources their concern has to do with the Rules Cmt. adopting a budget for the Assembly. If no agreement can be reached within 15 days, Brown has the authority to allocate the budget. As for power-sharing, with Republicans now at only 39 members and the possibility of losing other members because of a special election in the 35th S.D., the GOP will be short 1-2 lawmakers for months; maybe past the summer. So the equal division probably has some advantages for the GOP at this time. There will be 13 GOP chairs and Brown has already said the GOP will head many of the key committees...

...*Politically*, we'll just have to wait and see what happens. Ross Johnson was threatening recalls on the floor during the Speakership battle against at least 5 Demos: Bowen, Cannella, Machado, Alpert and

Davis. Some sources think a series of recalls against Demos would backfire, while still others think that once Republicans settle into this new power-sharing arrangement, the political situation will cool off. Stay tuned...

THE GINGRICH BOOK DEAL: WITH ALL THE DEMO BASHING OF NEWT, PUBLIC POLICY ISSUE IS LOST.
Editor's note: There's little doubt that if House Speaker Newt Gingrich(R) had it to do over again, he'd probably have handled this book deal in a much different manner. But the brouhaha over the book deal has managed to do one thing: it has diverted attention away from the public policy question of **foreign ownership of radio & TV stations**. Here's a brief report & analysis, with some background...

...This whole flap started when NBC-TV filed a petition with the FCC to clarify the current ban on the foreign ownership of TV & radio stations; and how many owned-and-operated stations one network may have. (The current FCC rule is 12). The focus of NBC's request is Rupert Murdoch, a naturalized U.S. citizen. But he owns Australian-based News Corp., which owns Fox, a U.S. based entertainment/communications firm. The Fox TV Network currently owns 8 tv stations and may be in the process of buying 6 more. That's two over the limit, according to sources at NBC. Again, NBC says it wants FCC clarification...

...Contrary to reports, NBC has not filed suit. Sources say NBC wants to know if the rules have changed --- and if not, why aren't the current rules being enforced? Question: Does General Electric, which owns NBC, want to unload the net to a foreign owner if the FCC rules in Murdoch's favor???

...Enter U.S. Rep. Mike Oxley(R-Ohio). In the past he has carried legislation to remove the restrictions on foreign ownership of U.S. tv & radio stations. Sources say he is carrying similar legislation in the 104th congress (HR 514), but no hearings have been set. It will be up to Gingrich to determine the fate of this bill. This is where the conflict of interest comes in with the book deal, because Murdoch also owns Harper-Collins, a publishing company. Stay tuned...

CALPEEK TO ADDRESS THE EMPLOYERS GROUP.

CALPEEK publisher Dick Rosengarten will address members of The Employers Group (Legislative Task Force of Orange Co.), 11:45 a.m., Feb. 3, Costa Mesa Country Club...

CAMPAIGN '96: ADD SOME MORE NAMES TO RACES.

Editor's note: Here's yet another update on who's in and who's out for House & Legislative races in 1996...

...If there's one area in So. Calif. with lots of political movement, it's in L.A. County's big bedroom communities of the San Fernando & San Gabriel Valleys. And most of the talk centers on two long-time pols: U.S. Rep. Carlos Moorhead and L.A. Co. Sup. Mike Antonovich...

...Some sources suspect that the 104th Congress will be Moorhead's last. If Moorhead retires, that opens the door for Antonovich. And an Antonovich candidacy probably clears the field of other GOP rivals. But other sources wonder why Antonovich would give up his powerful post. Some think he's bored; others suggest that he's tired of fighting the board's liberal majority; while still others say he's always wanted to be in congress because he's a foreign policy wonk...

● L.A. County Supervisor - Assuming Antonovich runs for congress, here's who might want a shot at the supe job: Assemblymembers Richard Katz(D); Paula Boland(R) or perhaps James Rogan(R)...

● 27th C.D. - Should Antonovich not run for Moorhead's seat, Rogan, Katz or perhaps Boland might run here. Another name to add is State Sen. Newton Russell(R), who is out of the Senate in '96 because of term limits...

● 21st S.D. - Assemblyman Bill Hoge(R) seems to be the leading contender to take over Russell's seat...

● 43rd & 44th A.D.s - If either Hoge or Rogan move up the political ladder, look for a host of GOP newcomers to jump, chief among them, LAPD Officer Peter Repovich, who for a brief time challenged Rogan for his assembly seat...

...FYI: Another State Senator who may be looking backward is Henry Mello(D-Watsonville), who sources

say has his eyes on Bruce McPherson's 27th A.D. seat. Mello is out in 1996 and it's thought that McPherson wants a shot at Mello's 15th S.D. Stay tuned...

CALPEEK's INFOBAHN: POLITICAL SHORT TAKES.

Editor's note: Here are a few political items worth noting...

● **59th A.D. Special** - Within hours after being ousted from the Assembly, Richard Mountjoy(R-Arcadia) was sworn into the State Senate to represent the 29th S.D. For those who forgot, he was elected to both posts on Nov. 8th in a freak situation. FYI: Is Mountjoy backing one specific candidate to succeed him? *Maybe*. Seen with Mountjoy in Sacto at the Derby Club was Arcadia Councilman Bob Margett...

● **Horcher Recall Update** - The drive to oust maverick Assemblyman Paul Horcher(I-Diamond Bar) from his 60th A.D. seat is about halfway to its goal. Recall organizers turned in 10,293 signatures to the L.A. Co. Registrar's office Jan. 23. State law requires that the registrar report the number of valid signatures at 30 day intervals, starting Jan. 27. A total of 18,761 valid signatures are needed by June 6th. Most sources think recall advocates will have more than enough signatures by late February. Horcher is being recalled by GOPers because he voted for Demo Willie Brown for Speaker over GOP Assembly Leader Jim Brulte...

● **35th S.D. Special** - *Aka Brulte's Revenge*. In this special election to replace Marian Bergeson(R) in the State Senate, GOP Assembly Leader Jim Brulte has endorsed **both** Assemblymembers Doris Allen of Cypress and Ross Johnson of Fullerton. Normally, Brulte avoids primary battles, but because of nasty comments about him made by the third major candidate in this race, former Assemblyman Gil Ferguson, Brulte decided to endorse Allen & Johnson...

● **Anti-Abortion Bill In the Works** - State Sen. Ray Haynes(R-Riverside) and Assemblyman Bill Morrow(R-Oceanside) will soon introduce a bill that they call "The Women's Right To Know" law. It would require a 24-hour waiting period prior to an abortion. Pro-choice groups are gearing up for a fight...

● **San Diego Musical Chairs** - San Diego City Hall lobbyist Scott Harvey has been picked to serve out the

term of Councilman Ron Roberts, who was elected to the Bd. of Supes last November. Harvey can't run for another term and so there is some speculation that he might be looking at the 78th A.D. seat of Dede Alpert (D), who can't seek reelection in '96 because of term limits. Harvey is a moderate GOPer. And in the battle to replace Brian Bilbray on the Board of Supes, sources say the leading rivals are former Chula Vista Mayor Greg Cox and businessman Jack Monger...

- **Hayden's Scam-Cam Videos** - A new hi-tech way to expose corruption is being pioneered by State Sen. Tom Hayden(D-L.A.). Instead of just issuing a written report, Hayden is using a VCR and releasing short, 4-minute videos to TV newsrooms. Hayden's first "Spotlight on Corruption" tape was aimed at L.A. Co.'s MTA. The tape was distributed last December. The next scam-cam is due for release in mid February. No word yet on the next target...

- **Card Club Madness** - Just for the record, last Dec. 13th the northern Calif. city of Brisbane defeated two measures to build a 200-table, \$50 million card club/entertainment complex. The vote was about 2-to-1 against both measures. The proposal was sponsored by a partnership of San Diego-based Casino Management Systems and 39 other participants. Are there any other cities thinking about card club proposals for 1995? Sources say card club sponsors are again looking at the cities of Cerritos (L.A. Co.) and Los Alamitos (Orange Co.). Nothing solid, just rumors...

- **For the Record** - CDP Chair Bill Press has filed a civil lawsuit in L.A. Superior Court against GOP Assembly Leader Jim Brulte and Assemblyman Steve Kuykendall(R-Rancho Palos Verdes), charging violations of the campaign reporting laws, in which Philip Morris, Inc., gave a \$125,000 contribution to Kuykendall. A GOP spokesperson termed the lawsuit as frivolous. We'll keep you posted...

- **CA's Bellwether County** - Is there one of Calif.'s 58 counties that usually votes the winning way?? Yes. It's **Sacramento County**. But in this last cycle, they goofed on SOS --- Sacto Co. voters picked Tony Miller (by 10,000) over Bill Jones. But other than the Miller/Jones mistake, county voters were right on target with the rest of the ballot. Stay tuned...

NEW JOBS, ADDRESSES AND PERSONNEL NOTICES.

Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook...

- Sacto-based Paul Kinney Productions has moved to 455 Capitol Mall, Ste. 227, Sacto CA 95814. Same phone and fax...

- Robert G. Haskell has been promoted to Sr. VP of Public Affairs at Pacific Mutual in Newport Beach...

- Ken Gibson, former director of the CA Dept. of Commerce, has been named Chief Dep. Commissioner by Insurance Commissioner Chuck Quackenbush...

- Consultant Bob Stiens pulls up stakes in Orange Co. and moves his offices to L.A. at 5031 N. Figueroa, Suite 25, L.A. 90042; (213)349-0861 or (818)793-1320...

- Campaign consultant Richard S. Woodward, managing partner of Burlingame-based Woodward & McDowell, has been elected vp of the American Assn. of Political Consultants(AAPC)...

- Richard Dresner & Robert Wickers have announced the formation of Dresner, Wickers & Associates, Inc. The new name replaces the old one of Dresner, Sykes, Jordan & Wickers. The CA office is at 24 Charlton St., San Carlos, CA 94070; while the NY office in Bedford Hills. Dresner will be president and Wickers Exec. VP...

- Rose McFarland King of Directions will no longer manage candidates, but instead will specialize in campaign writing and candidate & organizational training...

- The campaign consulting firm of Greer, Margolis, Mitchell, Burns & Associates has moved its west coast office to 2110 Main Street, Ste. 203, Santa Monica, CA 90405. New phone is (310)314-4800...

- New SOS Bill Jones has named campaign consultant/legislative staffer Rob Lapsley as his chief deputy. Bob Jennings has been appointed to the post of chief asst. SOS. Vickie Glaser, who has worked for Jones since 1982, has been named legislative director, while Shirley Washington has been named acting press secretary...